



THE FIELD GUIDE TO  
**ACCOMMODATION  
SECURITY**

**Grant Rayner**



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**ACCOMMODATION**  
**SECURITY**

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1. Travel
2. Travel Safety
3. Travel Security
4. Travel Risk Management
5. Travel Planning
6. Accommodation Security
7. Hotel Security

The information in this Field Guide is intended to be generic and is not tailored to any one location. If you are travelling to a higher-risk location, seek professional advice in advance of your travel.

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# PREFACE

## Purpose

Operating in complex and higher-risk environments not only presents significant difficulties but also potentially involves serious risks. At Spartang, we've spent more than two decades enabling organisations and individuals to operate safely and securely in challenging environments. In doing so, we've built up a significant amount of knowledge and experience.

As part of our Project SAFE HAVEN initiative, we assess the security of hotels and other properties in locations where there is an elevated risk from terrorism. We maintain a library of security assessments for organisations that need to send travellers to these locations. Over the years, we've also conducted dozens of assessments of residential and commercial properties across the Asia Pacific and Middle East regions. Some of this work has involved securing the properties of ultra high net work individuals.

Leveraging this experience, we have developed this Field Guide to help you select secure accommodation during engagements in complex and higher-risk environments.

This guide will focus on the security of hotels, apartments, guesthouses and residences.

We will outline the advantages and disadvantages of each accommodation option. We will also go into detail to

explain how you can assess the security of your accommodation and, if needed, how to augment security to provide additional protection.

Parts of this Field Guide are technically orientated and may not be light reading for some. The guide will get into the nuts and bolts of physical security, particularly when it comes to increasing the level of security protection.

Starting from hotels, each chapter will go progressively deeper into security design and technology. Overall, the combined knowledge you'll gain from learning about the different approaches to securing each type of accommodation will enable you to make effective decisions and implement appropriate security measures regardless of where you're staying.

As you read this Field Guide, remember that the approaches described in each of the chapters are designed for higher-risk environments. As with all security planning, you will need to carefully assess the risks and threats in your operating environment and implement the security measures most likely to be effective against the specific threats and risks you face in that environment.

You'll gain the most benefit by reading this Field Guide from cover to cover. After that, the guide is structured so that you can revisit the chapters and sections that are relevant to you for specific projects.

## **Who This Guide Is for**

This Field Guide has been specifically designed for people who travel to, and operate in, complex and higher-risk environments. Such people may include journalists, security consultants, aid workers, field researchers, expedition teams and adventure travellers.

The contents of this Field Guide will be particularly useful for individuals or teams who may be staying in a location for longer periods of time.

## **Operating Context**

The advice in this Field Guide is focused on complex and higher-risk environments. These environments are characterised by the fact that there are active threats to your safety and wellbeing. These environment may also have the following characteristics:

- The location may be remote
- The location may have poor infrastructure
- There may be high levels of corruption
- You have minimal local support to back you up

In combination, these factors pose a host of challenges to your work or activities. To stay safe, you will need to take active measures to manage risk and assure the safety of both yourself and your team.

This Field Guide will show you how.

# END NOTES

## About the Author

Grant Rayner is an experienced security and crisis management specialist, based in Asia.

Grant's career started in the military, where he served for a little over 13 years as a soldier, NCO and officer. During his period of service, he worked in infantry, special operations and intelligence units.

After leaving the military, Grant relocated to Asia, where he has lived and worked for more than 20 years. During that time, he has held senior regional positions in several global security consulting firms. He has also worked in corporate security roles at regional and global levels.

In 2012, Grant founded Spartan9.

During his time as a consultant, Grant has provided specialised security and crisis management services to clients across more than 25 countries in the Asia Pacific and Middle East regions. He has also supported clients during and after a host of major crisis events, including natural disasters, civil unrest and terrorist attacks.

Grant is an active traveller, writer and photographer. He has published numerous books and articles on the subjects of security and crisis management. He has spoken at a number of industry events, and has also been invited to speak to a class at Harvard Business School.

## About Spartan9

Spartan9 provides consulting, training and operational support designed to enable organisations to operate safely, securely and successfully in complex and higher-risk environments.

We work with some of the world's leading organisations in many of the world's most interesting and complex places —from board rooms in Manhattan to remote field camps in Balochistan, and most places in between.

We're accustomed to working in challenging operating environments and in different cultural contexts. In fact, these are the places we feel most at home.

We bring unique skills, experience and perspectives to our projects..

You can learn more on our website.

[www.spartan9.com](http://www.spartan9.com)

## Other Titles

We have published a number of books focused on operating securely in higher-risk environments.

### The Field Guide Series

- The Field Guide to Deployment Planning
- The Field Guide to Personal Security
- The Field Guide to Accommodation Security
- The Field Guide to Transport Security

### Other titles

- The Guide to Travelling in Higher-Risk Environments
- Under the Radar
- The Security Evacuation Handbook Vol I - Fundamentals & Planning
- The Security Evacuation Handbook Vol II - Decision-Making & Execution
- The Crisis Response Handbook
- The Crisis Simulation Handbook

You can purchase these books from our [website](#).

## Feedback

If you identify any errors or broken links, or have thoughts to add on the topics in this Field Guide, please get in touch.

Thank you for reading, and safe travels!

